

## Negroes Would Buy 100 Houses In Brownsville

White Tenants Excited as the Prosperous Looking Group Seans Section With Offer to Purchase

### Charge Landlord Scheme

Striking Occupants Say the Owners Would Be Doing Spitework by Selling

Four prosperous looking negroes, carrying gold headed canes, looked over some choice property in Brownsville yesterday, with a view, they told Isaac Elman, president of the Brownsville Landlords' Protective Association, of purchasing one hundred apartment houses.

The little groups of tenants, sunning themselves along the sidewalk, were moved to excited and speculative comment. On Friday, David Spain, secretary of the Landlords' Association, announced that the American African Colonization Association had offered to fill boycotted houses in Brownsville, with negroes "of the better class."

According to Mr. Elman, the apartments which the negroes looked over yesterday, vary in value from \$40,000 to \$60,000. He said that property owners would not reject reasonable offers, in view of their heightening difficulties with tenants.

Alderman Barnet Wolff, one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Tenants' League, characterized the project of the landlords as "pure poppycock and nonsense."

"Owners Would Spite Selves."

"The landlords would simply be cutting off their nose to spite their face," said. "They know very well that a minute a colored family takes possession of a flat in their houses, the value of the property depreciates tremendously. A glance at the real estate values in Manhattan clearly brings that out. Property on Seventh Avenue is worth far more than that on Lenox Avenue. In other sections it is the same."

"We are not drawing the color line. There are negro families living within blocks of parts of Brownsville and people are secretly aware of it. The flats into which the negroes would move are being boycotted because the landlords took unfair advantage of present conditions and sought to profiteer. From my knowledge of colored people of the better class, I would say that they would back the tenants in their fight on unreasonable landlords and would join in the boycott."

Depreciation Contradicted

In contradiction to this opinion David Goldberg, City Marshal, declared that property depreciates only when one or two colored families move into a white district. When a whole section is occupied by negroes, he said, the property is as high, if not higher, than if it were tenanted by white families. Mr. Elman said that rooms now bringing \$4 and \$5 are easily worth \$6, and negroes would gladly pay the higher rent.

"You must remember," he said, "that the value of property is fixed on its earning power. This earning power certainly would not be reduced if we took in negroes."

Other landlords reported to Mr. Elman that they had been interviewed by groups of negroes, all eager and willing to purchase property.

One Brownsville landlord, Henry Steinhart, owner of a house at 380 Riverside Avenue, appeared as complainant against his tenants yesterday before the Mayor's Committee on Rent Profiteering.

Claims Agreement Violated

This reversal of the usual order of procedure was due to Steinhart's claim that his tenants are violating an agreement they had with him regarding rents. He charged that some of the tenants broke into the cellar and smashed the range supplying hot water and later was told that the agreement was void because he was unable to furnish hot water. The tenants charged by the landlord with smashing the range will be summoned before the Mayor's Committee.

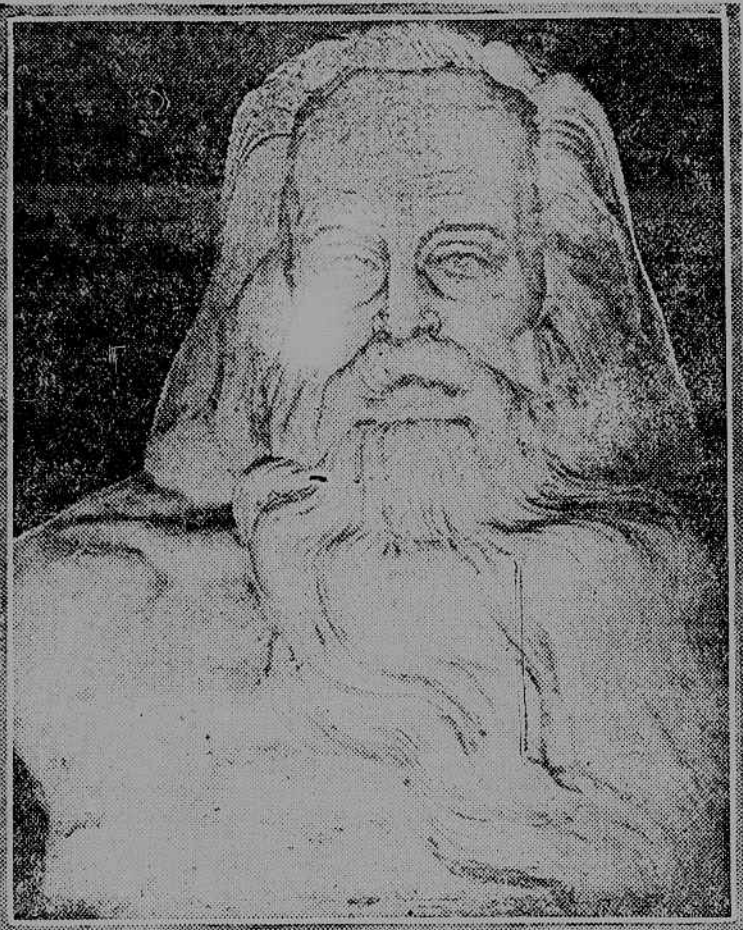
The Joint Legislative Committee called off its scheduled session yesterday because of its inability to serve a subpoena on Louis D. Baer, president of the Chemical Realty Company. At the last session of the committee, which is investigating ice and housing conditions here, tenants in houses owned by the Chemical Realty Company complained of being charged exorbitant rents.

7 Hurt as Auto Goes Wild

Seven men were injured yesterday at Berry and North Thirtieth streets, Brooklyn, when the steering gear of an automobile broke and it swerved to the sidewalk, smashing an electric light post. The men in the car were Matthew Kearns, the driver, of 305 Fifty-ninth Street, Brooklyn; William Gilmartin, 255 Twenty-first Street; John H. Smith, 290 Conover Street, and Frank Dean, 227 Twenty-ninth Street.

As the car hit the post it tipped over, and three men on the curb were struck. They are George Guber, 97 North Sixth Street; Michael Pips, 174 Wythe Avenue, and Edward Hoefler, 124 Bedford Avenue.

## Stolen Bust of Walt Whitman



This is the bronze image of the Poet of Camden, which was spirited away from a Greenwich Village studio "barn," and for a brief minute occupied a niche in the New York University Hall of Fame. The university authorities are now holding it for the claim of its artist owner.

## George Sylvester Viereck Again Raises His Voice

He Speaks for "the New Germany" at Whitman Meeting at Brevoort, but What He Says Does Not Meet With the Approval of All Those Present

George Sylvester Viereck spoke last night at the annual meeting of the Walt Whitman Fellowship International in the Hotel Brevoort.

He had waited until the war was practically over to condemn the United States for her treatment of "her sister commonwealth, the new Germany," but he did not complete his address without sounds of conflict breaking in upon it. He had got only fairly started when George Dana Mumford arose from his chair and taking Mrs. Mumford with him started from the hall, protesting as he went.

Mumford vs. O'Sheel.

At the door Mr. Mumford became embroiled in argument which threatened momentarily to develop into something more active, with Samuel O'Sheel. This somewhat marred the rest of Mr. Viereck's speech, for half of the radicals present listened to him, while the rest paid attention to the more impromptu and noisy efforts of Messrs. Mumford and O'Sheel.

As a result, the proceedings ran along somewhat as follows:

Mr. Viereck: "Can you imagine Walt Whitman approving a democracy that is aiding in the destruction of his sister commonwealth, the new Germany?"

(Mr. Mumford—Shut up. Let an American talk!)

"Can you imagine him approving of a nation that is helping to rend Russia; a democracy that is excluding three-fourths of the peoples of the earth from the benefits of democracy?"

(Mr. O'Sheel—"Shut up yourself. Who are you?")

That Barred Name of Poe

"It is a sacrilege to place the bust of Walt Whitman in that place of infamy called the Hall of Fame, which until recently barred the name of Edgar Allen Poe."

(Mr. Mumford—"I have a right here. I paid for my dinner." Mr. O'Sheel—"And what else did you pay for?")

"It is as repugnant as it would be to place the picture of your sweetheart in the house of a drunkard."

(Mr. Mumford—"What is your name?" Mr. O'Sheel—"I want to know who you are.")

The Hall of Fame is controlled by the vested interests and is filled with kept posts.

(Mr. O'Sheel—"I am Shamus O'Sheel." Mr. Mumford—"Hah! I thought so.")

Can you imagine Walt Whitman supporting a government that was trying to crush a sister republic?

(Mr. Mumford—"My name is Mumford." Mr. O'Sheel—"Bah! British!")

When He Was for Wilson

"I was for Wilson when he followed the spirit of Whitman, but not when he follows the spirit of Clemenceau."

(Mrs. Mumford—"George, be careful!")

At this point Mr. Mumford was drawn back by his wife from an attitude of self-defense and Mr. O'Sheel, who was posing in like manner, was dragged away by several peace makers.

Mr. Viereck sat down. There was much applause from both parties of listeners.

Others who left the room with the Mumfords were Cecil O'Gorman and Frank Behn. Another desertion occurred earlier in the evening. When telegrams were read amid cheers from Kate Richards O'Hare and Emma Goldman, imprisoned radicals, a man in the uniform of a colonel of the Adjutant General's Department rose and stamped out of the meeting.

Justice Tierney Refuses To Cut Volk Alimony

Justice Tierney yesterday denied a motion by Morris Volk, son by a former marriage of Mme. Da Gama, wife of the former Brazilian Ambassador at Washington, to reduce the \$100 a month alimony which he has been paying Mrs. Elise H. Volk, who sued for a divorce. Mr. Volk pleaded that he could not afford to pay that much because he was earning only \$150 a month in the employ of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

In opposing the motion Mrs. Volk took issue with Mme. Da Gama, who said her daughter-in-law agreed to accept an allowance in lieu of alimony. Mrs. Volk said there never was such agreement.

Mrs. Volk said her husband is not dependent on the \$150 a month. He makes his home at the Yale Club and spends much time in the Ritz-Carlton and "ports about town, almost always accompanied by women," she said.

Mr. Volk said he lacked business experience, due to the indolent existence led by himself and wife. He said he owed \$8,000. Mrs. Volk replied that this debt was largely the result of purchases of wearing apparel for his women friends.

Mrs. Volk had made a motion to punish her husband for contempt for failure to pay alimony. Justice Tierney permitted her to withdraw this motion, she having received the money.

Towne Family Scion Weds Tailor's Daughter

STAMFORD, Conn., May 31.—Joseph Meredith Towne, son of Mrs. Frederick T. Towne of this city, and grandson of Henry R. Towne of New York, a founder of the Yale & Towne Co., has married Sarah, daughter of Max Raven, a tailor of this place. Their marriage by a justice of the peace in Toledo, Ohio, on March 13, became known to-day, when Mrs. Raven received a letter and the marriage certificate from her daughter.

Mr. Towne is nineteen years old. His bride is eighteen. She was born in Kiev, Russia, and has been here twelve years. He is earning \$30 a week in the employ of a Detroit automobile company. They are living in Detroit and "saving money every week," according to the young woman's letter. Their marriage took place without the knowledge of either family, but both are said to be reconciled to the fact now, and Mr. Towne's mother has gone to Detroit to see them.

Miss Raven went to work as soon as she finished grammar school for the concern which Mr. Towne's grandfather helped to found. Mr. Towne was studying with tutors at that time and traveling. He met Miss Raven and frequently thereafter was seen in her company.

A few months ago he went to Detroit to start work with the automobile company and it was surmised that their acquaintance had been broken off. Shortly after his departure, however, Miss Raven disappeared. There were rumors that the couple had been married, but Mrs. Towne denied it and a formal denial was made by a representative of the Yale & Towne Co.

Mr. Towne's mother has gained repute as a portrait painter and has been a leader in philanthropic work here. About a year ago she established a school of arts for students whose talents exceeded their means.

Foch Has Long Conference

PARIS, May 31.—Marshal Foch, Foreign Minister Pichon and Louis Loucheur, Minister of Reconstruction, had a long conference to-day at the Foreign Office.

## Noted Writers Pay Tribute at Shrine Of Walt Whitman

Authors Journey to Apple Orchard at West Hills, L. I., and Hear Letters Praising the Great Poet

Authors, poets and members of numerous literary and historical societies joined yesterday in a pilgrimage to West Hills, Long Island, the birthplace of Walt Whitman. The journey was under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences in honor of the 100th anniversary of the poet's birth.

The societies represented were the Poetry Society of America, the historical societies of Suffolk, N. J., and Huntington, Long Island, and the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. Among the writers present were Percy MacKaye, Hamlin Garland, Gerald Stanley Lee and Dr. Mabel Irwin. Letters were read from Arnold Bennett, John Masfield and Edgar Lee Masters.

Dr. Richard Burton, the chief speaker, declared that Whitman's place in literature is no longer a subject for debate, since he was one of the five greatest American writers. The others, in his opinion, were Poe, Hawthorne, Emerson and Mark Twain.

Compared to Milton

He compared Whitman to Milton in personality and breadth of vision, saying that both saw life in terms of their faith in man's nobler acts and aspirations. The poet's greatness, said the speaker, was due to four qualities—his literary genius, his patriotism, his cosmic view of things and his courage in daring to be himself.

Arnold Bennett's letter said: "In reply to your letter I can only say that in my opinion America has produced no greater writer than Walt Whitman, and that he is one of the greatest teachers that ever lived."

"America's first real voice" was the characterization of Whitman by John Masfield, who said: "He was the first to speak out in a way that was American." Mr. Masfield also alluded to Whitman's rough pioneer qualities.

Mr. Masters referred to the poet's democracy, his spirituality and his dislike of tradition, and declared that Whitman had more nearly justified the ways of God to man than any other writer produced in this country and perhaps in the world.

Meet in Apple Orchard

The meeting was held in the old apple orchard near the cottage in which Whitman was born. Dr. Edward Hagaman Hall, president of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, acted as chairman.

In Camden, N. J., the English Speaking Union decorated Whitman's grave with a double entwined wreath of the combined colors of Great Britain and America.

## Dr. Anna Howard Shaw Still Critically Ill

Springfield, Ill., Physician Says She Is Better, but Case Is Not Promising

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 31.—The condition of Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, of New York, who was attacked with pneumonia Thursday morning on her arrival here to attend the state convention called to indorse the league of nations covenant, continues critical.

Dr. Shaw was removed from the Leland Hotel to St. John's Hospital this morning. Dr. M. P. Armstrong, the attending physician, made the following statement to-night:

"Dr. Shaw is a little better to-night, but she is a very sick woman, and her case is not a very promising one. It will be four or five days before the disease will reach its climax. She has a bad heart, which aggravates the matter. This is the fourth time she has had pneumonia."

Mrs. Lydig Gets \$750,000 In Schermerhorn Will

Sister Receives \$50,000 Outright and Income From Residue of Estate

The will of Frederick Augustus Schermerhorn, a former president of the Union Club, who died at a dinner there March 2, was filed yesterday at the Surrogate's office.

As originally drawn in 1906, the instrument left to "my dear friend," Mrs. David Lydig, \$750,000 and property in Lenox, Mass., and Washington, D. C. In a codicil drawn last year, however, Mr. Schermerhorn changed this bequest to leave Mrs. Lydig one-third of the \$750,000, explaining that as her husband had died the preceding year he thought it best not to burden her with the administration of so much property.

Mr. Schermerhorn's sister, with whom he lived at 101 University Place, is to receive \$50,000 outright; and the income from the residue of the estate, which is to be held in trust for her. Upon her death the trust fund is to be divided between Columbia University and the New York Institute for the Blind, of both of which institutions Mr. Schermerhorn had been trustee.

U. S. Force Abroad Cut to 200,000 by September

WASHINGTON, May 31.—Estimates sent to Congress by the War Department provide for maintaining 600,000 men in France and Germany in July, 400,000 in August and 200,000 in September. Major McKay, of the army Bureau of Finance, told the House Military Committee to-day that should an army of occupation be needed after October 1 Congress would be asked for additional funds.

Brigadier General Lord, chief of the Bureau of Finance and other department chiefs, explained in detail the various items in the army appropriation bill, which totals \$1,252,000,000, compared with \$1,177,000,000 in the bill which failed in the last Congress. The largest increase is for the air service, \$83,441,000.

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West of Fifth Avenue

## Announces Opening of New Building

As a **MEN'S SHOP**

Entrance 32 West 14th St.

FEATURING "STYLWEAR" CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS

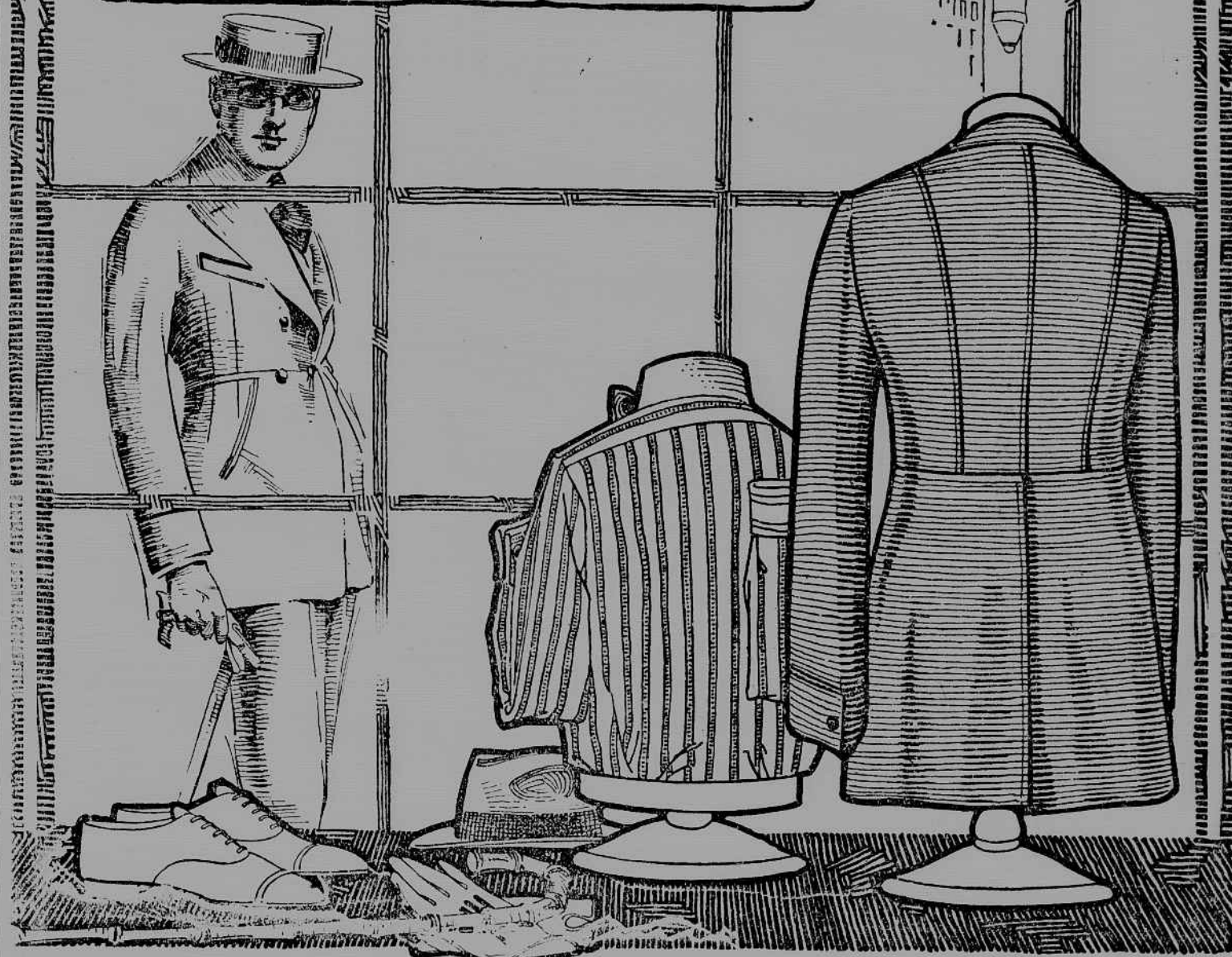
A SPACIOUS, UP-TO-DATE SHOP—everything for correct dress.

QUALITY CLOTHES of newest style and distinction in a range of models consistent with refinement and good taste.

ABOUT VALUES—The same policy that has characterized our value-giving in other sections of this store will be maintained in our New Up-to-date Men's Shop.

NEWEST ACCESSORIES of fashion and use are displayed at prices notably less than in other stores.

See Opening Specials at Foot



## These Opening Season Specials on Sale Tomorrow at 9 A. M.

**Men's and Youths' All-Wool Navy Serge Suits**—Double and single breasted—waist line—regular sizes; also stout, short and long sizes—our regular \$30.00. **22.50**

**Men's Trousers**—Worsted finish—large assortment of stripes—sizes 30 to 50—our reg. \$4.45 and \$4.95. **2.99**

**Men's Suits**—Fine Wool and Worsted—Plain colors, stripes, etc.—browns, blues, light and dark grays—single or double breasted coats—regular and stout sizes—Every \$45 and \$50 suit in stock—Special tomorrow and Tuesday. **37.50**

**Men's Khaki Trousers**—strong and durable quality—our reg. \$1.95. **1.36**

**Men's Panama Hats**—\$4.95 and \$5.95 values **3.66**

**Men's Straw Hats**—Large assortment of fine and rough straws—special. **1.85**

**Men's Otis Underwear**—first quality—White or Balbriggan—Special. **.77**

**Men's Reis Union Suits**—Balbriggan or white—short sleeve or athletic style—our reg. \$2.00. **1.46**

**Men's Fine Silk Stripe Shirts**—Blue, green, helio, gray, etc. soft cuffs—well made—our reg. \$3.00. **1.66**

**Men's Fine Silk Shirts**—Broadcloth and Crepe de Chines and other fine silks—best colors—our reg. \$8.95 **6.77**

**Men's Gillette Blades**—1/2 doz.—Special. **.35**

**Men's Initial All Leather Belts**—All initials—our reg. \$1.00. **.68**

**Men's Suspenders**—Special. **.45**

**Men's Soisette Pajamas**—Special. **2.33**

**Men's Night Shirts**—Fruit of Loom Muslin. **1.17**

**Men's Tenderfoot Oxfords**—Dark tan—new English models, also broad medium toe Blucher style—sizes 6 1/2 to 10—our reg. \$7.00—Special. **5.85**

**3,000 Neckties**—Silks and satins stripes and figures—regular dollar quality. **.56**

See Our Regular Five-Column Advt. on Page 18

## A GUIDE TO YOUR VACATION

## The Resort Graphic

of

The New York Tribune NEXT SUNDAY